

**CATAPHRACTUS PUNCTATUS BLOCH, 1794 (PISCES,
SILURIFORMES, CALlichthyidae): REQUEST FOR
INVALIDATION OF NEOTYPE AND VALIDATION OF A
REDISCOVERED SYNTYPE AS LECTOTYPE. Z.N.(S.) 1950.**

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In accordance with Article 75(f), we are referring to the Commission the case of the rediscovery of the type material of *Corydoras punctatus* (Bloch, 1794), published originally as *Cataphractus punctatus* (1794, *Naturgeschichte der ausländischen Fische* 8: 90, pl. 377, fig. 2).

While preparing a paper on the Guiana species of the genus *Corydoras* (Nijssen & Isbrücker, 1967) we wrote to Berlin to try to trace the type material of *Cataphractus punctatus* Bloch, 1794. Dr. K. Deckert (in litt. January 1966; see also Nijssen & Isbrücker, 1967: 22) informed us that this material was no longer extant. We were not surprised to find this because previous authors (Lacépède, 1803; Swainson, 1838; Valenciennes, in Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1840; Gill, 1858; Bleeker, 1858, 1862, 1864; Cope, 1872, 1878; Regan, 1912; Myers, 1927, 1940; Gosline, 1940, 1945; and so on) did not record type specimens of Bloch's species. We decided to designate a neotype (Nijssen & Isbrücker, 1967: 28-30, pl. 1, fig. 2, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden (RMNH) No. 25301. The neotype was recorded again (Nijssen, 1970: 33-34) and a statement of the loss of the original type material was repeated.

However, when borrowing other fish species from Berlin in 1970, Dr. C. Karrer informed us that she was trying to trace Bloch's specimens. Two syntypes of *C. punctatus* (Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität Berlin (ZMB) No. 3149) were sent to us and we found them identical with the *C. punctatus* specimens from the Suriname river system, Surinam. The two specimens now have the numbers: ZMB 3149, 41.8 mm sl and ZMB 22228, 33.9 mm sl. We hereby designate the larger of the two specimens (ZMB 3149, 41.8 mm sl) as lectotype of *Cataphractus punctatus* Bloch, 1794.

We therefore, request the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to:

- (a) set aside the neotype designation of *Cataphractus punctatus* Bloch, 1794, made by Nijssen & Isbrücker, 1967, *Zool. Meded. Leiden*, 42: 28-30 and
- (b) place the specific name *punctatus* Bloch, 1794, as published in the binomen *Cataphractus punctatus* on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology, with the endorsement that the species is to be determined by reference to the lectotype designated herein.

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